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Docket No. 0756-15:

IN THE UNITED STATES PATENT AND TRADEMARK OFFICE

In re Patent Application of Shunpei YAMAZAKI et al) Group Art Unit: 2822 Serial No. 08/691,434) Examiner: Wilczewski, Mary Filed: August 2, 1996 For: METHOD FOR FABRICATING SEMICONDUCTOR DEVICES AND) APPARATUS FOR PROCESSING A) **SEMICONDUCTOR**

CERTIFICATE OF MAILINES I hereby certify that this correspondence being deposited with

The United States Postal Service with sufficient postage as First Class Mail in an envelope addressed to: Assistant Commissioner for Patents, Washington, D.C. 20131, on February 8 200

REQUEST FOR ACKNOWLEDGMENT OF INFORMATION DISCLOSURE STATEMENT

Assistant Commissioner for Patents

Washington, D.C. 20231

Sir:

Applicants acknowledge with appreciation the Official Action mailed January 15, 2002.

The Official Action did not, however, include an initialed Form PTO-1449 acknowledging the Information Disclosure Statement filed July 2, 1998. Therefore, it is respectfully requested that the Examiner evidence consideration of the references cited in the Information Disclosure Statement of July 2, 1998 by providing a copy of the initialed Form PTO-1449.

If a conference would beneficial in expediting the prosecution of the instant application, the Examiner is invited to telephone the undersigned to arrange such a conference.

Respectfully submitted,

Eric J. Robinson

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